

~~SECRET~~

RAVEL-9

Assistant Director, Research and Reports

23 October 1958

Acting Chief, Geographic Research

Report of Trip to ACIC and SAC, 8 - 14 October -- 25X1A9a
25X1A9a [REDACTED] and

1. Purpose of Trip

The purpose of the trip was to secure briefings on the intelligence program of ACIC and SAC, with special attention to map production and the use of geographic intelligence sources. During the tour of SAC facilities, the travelers were joined by [REDACTED], O/DD/I, St/C, and [REDACTED]

25X1A9a

25X1A9a

2. Activities

a. ACIC

The visit to ACIC involved an extended tour of the plant and discussions on cartographic and geographic subjects of mutual interest. It is the opinion of the travelers that the ACIC organization has achieved very great improvement in the past five years. Production is efficient, quality control appears to be good, and the shop reflects throughout an imaginative and energetic approach to its assigned mission. A high esprit de corps is also evident, no doubt largely as a result of the personal leadership of Colonel Herndon (CO), T. C. Finnie (Chief of the Plant), and other members of the staff. ACIC presently employs about 3,000 personnel, with some 200 more anticipated for the new Missile Guidance Division. No great difficulties are being experienced as a result of the physical separation from Washington information repositories, though there are admitted inconveniences. Most attention during the tour and attendant discussions was given to the Missiles, Chart Research, and Cartography Divisions. In spite of this focus, the two days allotted were insufficient for an adequate technical review of the plant.

~~SECRET~~

SECRET

Approved For Release 2000/08/22 : CIA-RDP61-00391R000100020036-9

SUBJECT: Report of Trip to ACIC and SAC, 2 October
25X1A9a -- [REDACTED]

b. SAC

Briefings and discussions at SAC revolved about the SAC intelligence production programs and capabilities, particularly those related to the new 1:200,000 Target Chart series. As was their experience with ACIC in St. Louis, the CIA travelers were tremendously impressed with the competence and personal drive of the personnel visited. It was also impressive to see a tightly integrated intelligence organization functioning in direct contact with the operating elements which use its products and act on its findings. In addition to review of common interests in the cartographic and target field, the conferees discussed briefly SAC's special problems in the field of evasion and escape. As a result of this discussion, it is likely that a geographer will be required to assist SAC in drafting a new E and E requirement that is to be levied on the Agency.

3. Evaluation

The trip was of very great value to the travelers and, we believe, to those visited. Solid basis for a mutual understanding and appreciation was established. A number of useful technical discussions were held. A much clearer picture of two of CIA's potentially important suppliers and consumers was achieved.

4. Recommendations

a. It is recommended that Chief, D/CG, visit SAC soon to assist personnel there in the drafting of new SAC E and E requirements. It is further recommended that selected senior personnel in the Geographic Area be sent to SAC for general indoctrination and working-level discussion in the field of area research.

b. It is recommended that Chief, D/CG, return to ACIC at a convenient future time in order to examine in detail the techniques and specifications research being carried on by the plant supervisory staff.

25X1A9a
[REDACTED]

Distribution:

0&1 -- Addressee

1 -- St/A

2 -- SA/Ch/g

Approved For Release 2000/08/22 : CIA-RDP61-00391R000100020036-9
ORR:O/Ch/g: [REDACTED] Jmc/535(22 Oct 1958)

SECRET